Box 237, Richardson, Tx. 75080, wrote to Hyattstown
(Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms not indicated) 1/29/75

Dear J. Coker,

It has been a long time since I wrote or even thought about the missing frames of the Zapruder film.

However, it is my recollection that in no case did I refer to any frames missing from any version other than the original.

Copies were made immediately in Dallas. I have reason to believe more copies than are accounted for officially. I know about the official copies, more than is in the Warren Commission's records. There must be much I do not know about unofficial copies made from the original only.

In my belief the greatest value of the missing frames is the material they hold that is eliminated automatically when copies are made. This is the exposed film between the sprocket holes. It does not show in projection, either.

This exists in the original only in my understanding.

You ask, "How much would they be worth if a person found them?"

Whether you mean one of the unofficial copies made from the original or not you can mean how much would they be worth to me and how much could the market command. I'll respond to both.

I could not pay anything for them. Not only because I haven't the money and have not made money from this work. I don't believe they can hold anything not now known by other means. But if they did, which I could know by examination only, I would not be able to pay much. (Actually, I'd have more interest in a clearer 8mm copy than the one I have for those occasions on which I might want to make a close study to compare the film with other evidence I develop constantly.)

Commercially the day when the film can or will command any significant price is past. Life/Time reverted all the rights to the Zapruder family. They appear to have been able to make not a single sale of any kind. All the likely TV use is past. It has been on coast-to-coast TV many times here and abroad. Countless individual stations have shown it. I'm sure all kept videotapes. I have let my film be copied this way without charging a penny of anyone.

If you have these frames in either form and you would like me to examine them closely, I'll do it for you if you send me clear prints made from it or clear transparencies. I'll not steal them. If you want me to do this I recommend good packaging and registered mail.

To all except the few authentic experts, which is a much, much smaller number than you'd imagine from publicity, the value in an original copy is souvenir value. This can vary with the purchaser's curiosity and means. My 8mm copy, not the best but clear enough for comprehension at public showings, cost me $8.00. While I'd like to have a clearer copy I've done all this work without pay or subsidy and I can't afford much. I would also like to have a better copy to leave with my files. They will become a schoarly archive for students of the future.

There is no way for me to make anything from any copy of the film or any frames. Profit motive can't enmter into it because if I had such a copy and at some later time it had more value to someone for curiosity purposes I'd not part with it in order to leave it to this archive. And I do think more frames are missing than I mention in my earliest writing.

Did you know other films are missing entirely?

Sincerely,
Harold Weisberg